

Remarks

In response to the Office Action mailed June 30, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments and remarks contained herein place the instant application in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to because proper legends are missing. Claim 1, 2, 6-12 and 16-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,999,611 to Tatchell et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,400,652 to Goldberg et al. Claims 3 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,999,611 to Tatchell et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,796,806 to Birkbichler. Claims 4 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,999,611 to Tatchell et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,784,438 to Martinez. Claims 5 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,999,611 to Tatchell et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,173,050 to Malik. Applicants traverse the rejections.

Applicants have herein amended Figs. 1 and 3 to include legends for the elements corresponding to reference numerals 18, 20, 26, 30, 36, 66, 68, 72, 74, 78 and 79. Applicants submit that the drawings now contain proper legends and respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Applicants have herein amended claim 1 to recite, “detecting a third trigger specific to the third telecommunications service in response to a third communication from the telecommunications device; and routing the third communication to an operator services system in response to the detection of the third trigger,” and “receiving the third communication from the operator services system with a second message including information regarding a party requested by the telecommunications user from the operator services system[.]”

Applicants submit that amended claim 1 is not obvious over Tatchell in view of Goldberg because the references, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 1. *See* MPEP § 2142 (stating that one of the elements of a *prima facie* case of obviousness is that “the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations”). Applicants submit that Tatchell and Goldberg, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest at least, “receiving the third communication from the operator services system with a second message including information regarding a party requested by the telecommunications user from the operator services system,” as recited in amended claim 1. In fact, Applicants submit that neither Tatchell nor Goldberg teach any kind of operator services system. Therefore, Applicants submit that amended claim 1 as well as claims 2-10, 35 and 36, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over Tatchell and Goldberg. *See* MPEP § 2143.03 (stating that “[i]f an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious”).

Applicants submit that amended claims 11, 22, 26 and 31 contain limitations similar to those of amended claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 11, 22, 26 and 31 as well as claims 12-21, 37, 38, 23-25, 27-30, and 32-34, which depend therefrom, are allowable over Tatchell and Goldberg for reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to amended claim 1.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowance for the subject application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that the subject application is in condition for disposition other than allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, in order that the Examiner's concerns may be expeditiously addressed.

Respectfully submitted,



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FIG. 1

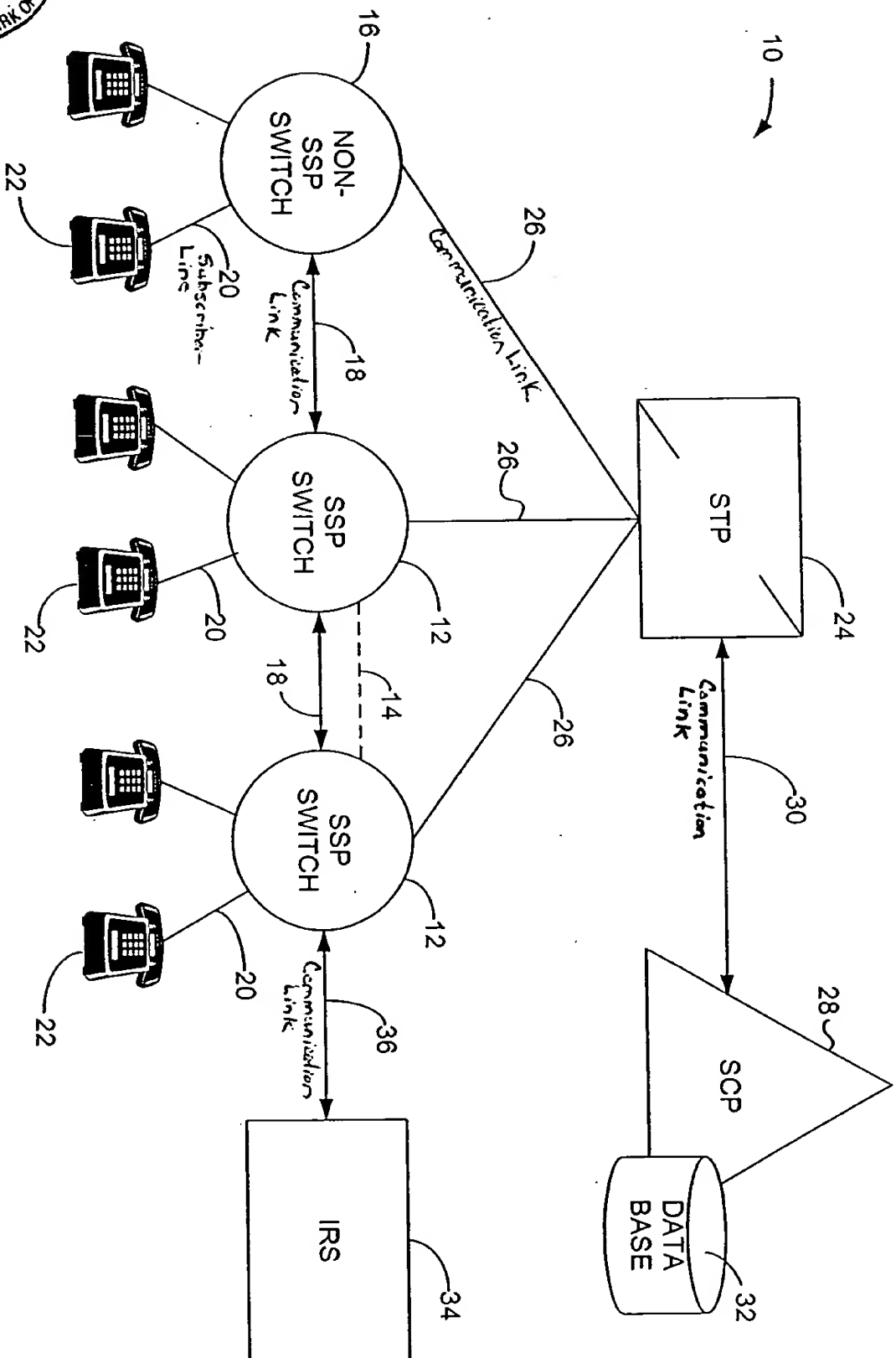


FIG. 3

